

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-48 (Cancelled).

Claim 49. (Currently Amended) A conductive carbonaceous-fiber sheet which has a thickness of from 0.05 to 1 mm, a weight per a unit area of from 60 to 250 g/m², a bending resistance (L) as determined by the 45° Cantilever method of 6 cm or higher, and an in-plane volume resistivity of 0.2 Ω cm or lower;

wherein the ~~fabrie~~ conductive carbonaceous-fiber sheet contains a binder comprising a phenolic resin or a product of carbonization of the binder in an amount of from 0.01 to ~~7%~~ 4% by weight and comprises carbonaceous fibers bonded to one another by surface coating with the binder or its carbonization product.

Claim 50. (Previously Presented) The conductive carbonaceous-fiber sheet as claimed in claim 49, which has an air permeability as determined in accordance with JIS L 1096, method A (frazil method) of from 50 to 150 cm³/cm²·sec, the air permeability being a measure of the gas-diffusing properties of the sheet.

Claim 51. (Previously Presented) The conductive carbonaceous-fiber sheet as claimed in claim 49, which has a thickness of from 0.1 to 0.5 mm.

Claim 52. (Previously Presented) The conductive carbonaceous-fiber sheet as claimed in claim 49, which has a weight per a unit area of from 80 to 200 g/m².

Claim 53. (Previously Presented) The conductive carbonaceous-fiber sheet as claimed in claim 49, which has a bending resistance (L) as determined by the 45° Cantilever method of 8 cm or higher.

Claim 54. (Previously Presented) The conductive carbonaceous-fiber sheet as claimed in claim 49, which comprises carbonaceous fibers constituted of monofilaments having a diameter of from 6 to 50 μm .

Claim 55. (Previously Presented) The conductive carbonaceous-fiber sheet as claimed in claim 49, which has an in-plane volume resistivity of 0.07 Ωcm or lower.

Claim 56. (Currently Amended) The conductive carbonaceous-fiber sheet as claimed in claim 49, wherein the carbonaceous fibers are ones obtained by spraying or applying a dispersion of fine particles of a semicured thermosetting phenolic resin, optionally conducting drying, pressing or both of them, and then completely curing the resin.

Claim 57. (Previously Presented) The conductive carbonaceous-fiber sheet as claimed in claim 49, wherein the sheet is a woven fabric.

Claim 58. (Previously Presented) The conductive carbonaceous-fiber sheet as claimed in claim 49, which has a degree of fluffing of from the second to the fifth grade in terms of the index as determined through a fluff grade test.

Claim 59 (Previously Presented): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber sheet as claimed in claim 49, wherein the carbonaceous fibers are oriented.

Claim 60 (Previously Presented): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber sheet as claimed in claim 59, wherein the carbonaceous fibers are axially oriented to one another.

Claim 61 (Previously Presented): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber sheet as claimed in claim 49, wherein the carbonaceous fibers are twisted yarns.

Claim 62 (Currently Amended): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber sheet as claimed in claim 49, wherein the carbonaceous fibers are bonded to one another with the binder or its carbonization product through a point contact, wherein the point contact is a particle of a thermosetting resin.

Claim 63 (Currently Amended): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber sheet as claimed in claim 49, wherein the carbonaceous fibers are bonded to one another with the binder or its carbonization product through a point contact, wherein the point contact is present between two fibers.

Claim 64 (Currently Amended): The conductive carbonaceous-fiber sheet as claimed in claim 49, wherein the carbonaceous fibers are bonded to one another with the binder or its carbonization product through a point contact, wherein the point contact is between a particle of a thermosetting resin and at least two fibers.

Claim 65 (Cancelled).

Claim 66. (Previously Presented) A solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell which employs the conductive carbonaceous-fiber sheet as claimed in claim 49 as a gas diffusion layer material.

Claim 67. (Previously Presented) A motor vehicle having the solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell as claimed in claim 66 mounted therein.

Claim 68. (Previously Presented) A cogeneration power system having the solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell as claimed in claim 66 installed therein.

Claim 69. (Currently Amended) A conductive carbonaceous-fiber woven fabric which has a thickness of from 0.05 to 1 mm, a weight per a unit area of from 60 to 250 g/m², a bending resistance (L) as determined by the 45° Cantilever method of 6 cm or higher, and an in-plane volume resistivity of 0.10 Ω cm or lower;

wherein the fabric contains a binder comprising a phenolic resin or a product of carbonization of the binder in an amount of from 0.01 to ~~7%~~ 4% by weight and comprises carbonaceous fibers bonded to one another with the binder or its carbonization product.

Claim 70. (Previously Presented) The conductive carbonaceous-fiber woven fabric as claimed in claim 69, which has a thickness of from 0.1 to 0.5 mm.

Claim 71. (Previously Presented) The conductive carbonaceous-fiber woven fabric as claimed in claim 69, which has a weight per a unit area of from 120 to 200 g/m².

Claim 72. (Previously Presented) The conductive carbonaceous-fiber woven fabric as claimed in claim 69, which has a bending resistance (L) as determined by the 45° Cantilever method of 8 cm or higher.

Claim 73. (Previously Presented) The conductive carbonaceous-fiber woven fabric as claimed in claim 69, which comprises carbonaceous fibers constituted of monofilaments having a diameter of from 6 to 50 μm .

Claim 74. (Previously Presented) The conductive carbonaceous-fiber woven fabric as claimed in claim 69, which has an in-plane volume resistivity of 0.07 Ωcm or lower.

Claim 75. (Previously Presented) The conductive carbonaceous-fiber woven fabric as claimed in claim 69, which has a thickness of from 0.1 to 0.5 mm, a weight per a unit area of from 130 to 170 g/m^2 , a bending resistance (L) as determined by the 45° Cantilever method of 8 cm or higher, and an in-plane volume resistivity of 0.06 Ωcm or lower.

Claim 76. (Cancelled)

Claim 77. (Previously Presented) The conductive carbonaceous-fiber woven fabric as claimed in claim 69, which is produced through the steps of weaving a precursor of carbonaceous fibers and then carbonizing the woven material.

Claim 78. (Previously Presented) The conductive carbonaceous-fiber woven fabric as claimed in claim 69, which is a plain weave fabric.

Claim 79. (Previously Presented) The conductive carbonaceous-fiber woven fabric as claimed in claim 69, which has a degree of fluffing of from the second to the fifth grade in terms of the index as determined through a fluff grade test.

Claim 80. (Previously Presented) A solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell which employs the conductive carbonaceous-fiber woven fabric as claimed in claim 69 as a gas diffusion layer material.

Claim 81. (Previously Presented) A motor vehicle having the solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell as claimed in claim 80 mounted therein.

Claim 82. (Previously Presented) A cogeneration power system having the solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell as claimed in claim 80 installed therein.